

## HOPEDALE POND (Hopedale)

## General Information:

This fertile 95-acre warm water pond is located about one mile northwest of the junctions of Routes 140 and 16. There are several good access points, but a gravel ramp provided by the Town of Hopedale and located off Park Street is an excellent place to start.

Watercolor here tends to be rather brown. The depth averages about five feet pretty much throughout the pond. The Town of Hopedale owns the entire eastern shore and northern two-thirds of the western shore. Many trails and footpaths on the eastern shore provide excellent access for shore fishing.

## Fish Populations:

The fish population was most recently studied during a 1981 summer survey. Ten species were collected including yellow perch, bluegills, pumpkinseeds, golden shiners, chain pickerel, yellow bullheads, largemouth bass, black crappie, brown bullheads and American eel. White catfish are also known to be present.

## Fishing:

There is extensive aquatic weed growth at Hopedale Pond, a potentially troublesome problem for the fisherman during the mid-summer. Bass fishing should be easier and probably more productive during the spring and into early summer before the weeds take over. Ice fishing for chain pickerel should be productive, as well as overall fishing for panfish species. Large white catfish are also caught here regularly.

February 1998